HPThe Pier

Ombudsman Newsletter, March 2016

The Pier is an authorized newsletter published for members of the Naval Hospital Pensacola Command and their family members. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Navy and do not imply endorsement thereof.



Commanding Officer-CAPT Sarah Martin Executive Officer-CAPT Frank Pearson Command Master Chief-CMDCM Michael Hinkle Command Ombudsman-Mrs. Laura Taylor

Easter Eggstravaganza

Easter Eggstravaganza is back at Blue Angel Park on March 26th, from 12 PM - 4 PM! With over 10,000 eggs hidden with prizes and toys for children of all ages; Eggstravaganza will be sure to include fun activities to keep your family entertained all afternoon! The Easter Bunny will be visiting, so don't forget your camera! Egg hunts, inflatable games, crafts, activities and a photo booth will be available for families to enjoy! This event is FREE for all MWR authorized patrons, with food and beverages available for purchase. Call 850-453-6310 for more information!

Egg Hunt Times & Ages:

Age 2 & Under	1:00 PM
Age 2	1:15 PM
Age 3	1:30 PM
Age 4	2:00 PM
Age 5	2:30 PM
Ages 6 & 7	3:00 PM
Ages 8, 9 & 10	3:30 PM

See more MWR events at www.navymwrpensacola.com



March is National Nutrition Month

The theme for 2016 is "Savor the Flavor of Eating Right," which encourages everyone to take time to enjoy food traditions and appreciate the pleasures, great flavors and social experiences food can add to our lives. How, when, why and where we eat are just as important as what we eat. Develop a mindful eating pattern that includes nutritious and flavorful foods— that's the best way to savor the flavor of eating right!

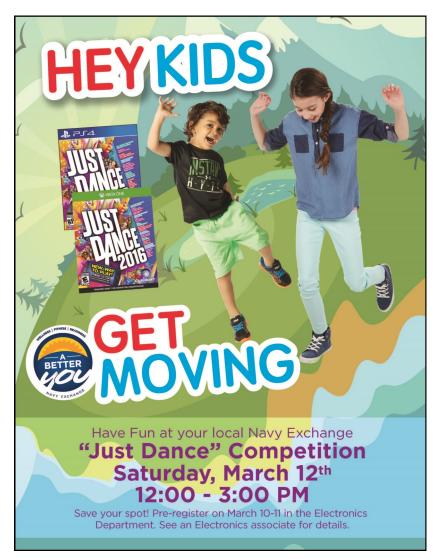


Sailors of the Quarter for First Quarter FY 2016









January & February Reenlistments

Congratulations to the following Sailors who reenlisted:

January:

HM2 Robert Bennett CS2 Donnieray Aguilo HM3 James McDonald HM3 Noaman Shaikh HM2 Jonathan Harris HM2 Eugene Smith

February:

HM2 Matthew Godwin HM3 Brandon Jozsa HM3 Stanley Maritim SH2 Jabril Clemmons Master Chief Andrew Ali HM2 Jessica Collazo HN Johnny Martin HM2 Daniel Williams

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Protect Your Grape

By LT Joseph Cahill, neurologist, Naval Hospital Pensacola

NAVAL HOSPITAL PENSACOLA, Fla. – Working as a neurologist has its challenges, but I have found that sometimes the real challenge lies at home with my own children and their attitudes towards protecting their brains or "grapes" as I like to call them.

As my children have grown older, it has become harder to convince them of the importance of wearing helmets when biking, skate boarding or doing other activities that can lead to head injuries.

The brain is a fascinating organ when it is working at its full capacity. However, just a small injury to the brain can change a person's interaction and behaviors and make them almost unrecognizable. An injury to the prefrontal cortex, the motor planning center, can make a lifelong musician forget how to play piano. More devastating injuries, like those that occur in head trauma, can cause a disability in patients to the extent that they may no longer be able to care for themselves independently.

I have found it is often difficult to translate this medical-speak into teenager-speak. Regardless of the "worst case scenarios" that parents can paint, or the examples that can be presented, teenagers often ignore the cautions of their own parents. This even occurs at my own home despite my level of education and experience. It becomes a struggle, even for a neurologist, to enforce helmets to teenage boys trying to fit in with their skateboarding buddies or girls not wanting to mess up their hair with a helmet while riding a bike with their friends.

Like many parents, I was reluctant to wear a helmet as well growing up. It was a different time when helmet safety was not promoted like it is today, and it was before I saw firsthand the devastating head injuries that occur with just a simple fall from a bicycle or skateboard. It doesn't take a lot of force to cause an injury to the brain. Simply falling off of a bicycle at slow speeds can cause a serious injury to the head if a helmet is not worn.

As parents grow older and get more experience, we begin to realize the nature of the business of being alive and how fortunate many of us are to have survived our own youth, especially those of us in the medical field. As a neurologist, I understand more than anyone the devastating consequences of children and adults not wearing helmets while snowboarding, skateboarding, bicycling or riding a motorcycle.

I am proud to say I bought my first real bike helmet while in neurology residency. I was resistant at first to riding with a helmet, but I couldn't expect my children to ride with a helmet when their neurologist dad didn't wear one. I could enforce them wearing a helmet when they were young, but not when they turned into irascible and often antagonistic teenagers. I'll be the first to admit I can't protect my children from everything, but at a minimum, I can provide a good role model for them and hope that something sticks.

As parents, let's set a good example and educate our children at an early age on the importance of wearing a helmet. Please ensure as well that the helmet fits properly and that it is worn correctly. A helmet with the strap not connected won't help during a fall. We may only have one chance to protect our "grape"

or our children's "grapes."

Lieutenant Joseph Cahill is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin's Neurology Residency Program and is a board certified Neurologist. He graduated from La Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara international school of medicine in 2009 and completed his final year of medical school at New York Medical College. Cahill is also an award winning screenwriter.





To learn more about helmet safety, watch the Helmet Safety Video on NHP's YouTube page https://youtu.be/lln0UZCcTxU.

CREDO Southeast NAS Pensacola Presents:

Personal Resiliency Workshop

16 March 2016

0830-1230

This Personal Resiliency Workshop will help foster your personal holistic growth including physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual aspects.

Desired Workshop Outcomes:

- Strengthen resiliency
- Establish personal growth goals
- Learn personal relaxation techniques
- Develop stress coping and problem-solving skills
- Take greater responsibility for personal decisions
- Develop spiritual fitness by deepening your sense of purpose in life
- Increase self-awareness and how your personal history shaped your life
- Enhance social wellness through friendship, family cohesion, and social support





Who can attend?

Active-duty service members (including reservists in an active status) and their spouse. Workshop date is subject to change or cancellation/postponement due to attendance requirements.

Where Does Training Take Place? NAS Pensacola Chapel

TO REGISTER or for more information, call or email Tony Bradford:

(850) 452-2093 · tony.bradford.ctr@navy.mil

Red Velvet Smoothie

Ingredients

- 1. 2 c. fresh spinach or super greens mix
- 2. 2 c. coconut milk, unsweetened
- 3. 2 c. strawberries
- 4. 4 dates, pitted
- 5. ¼ c. diced raw or cooked beets
- 6. 1 tbsp. cacao powder
- 7. ½ tsp. vanilla extract (optional)

Instructions

Blend spinach and coconut milk until smooth. Add remaining ingredients, and blend until smooth.

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